



Non-Meandered Waters Survey – Executive Summary

Below are the most common responses to each of the questions the South Dakota Soybean Association addressed through the survey. Complete survey results are available upon request.

Question 3 – What are your concerns with citizens using the water above private land?

- Farmer Responses
 - Litter
 - Landowner liability
 - Blocking and damaging public roads
 - Trespassing
 - Lack of respect for private property
- Non-Farmer Responses
 - No concerns
 - The public owns the water
 - Concerns with local businesses being affected if public access isn't allowed

Question 4 – What do you propose as a solution to address these issues?

- Farmer Responses
 - Higher fines for violators (littering/trespassing)
 - Increased GF&P patrolling
 - Let landowners decide if they want to open their land for recreational use
 - Respect ownership of private property
 - Ask permission
- Non-Farmer Responses
 - Full access to water as given in public trust doctrine
 - Full access with increased fines for littering/trespassing



Question 5 – What ideas or suggestions do you have as a property owner that would serve both landowners and citizens?

- Farmer Responses
 - Remove any landowner liability for recreational use of non-meandered waters
 - Lower or remove taxes on flooded land being used for recreational purposes
 - Ask permission
 - Create a voluntary program for landowners to enroll flooded land in allowing recreational use similar to USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)/Walk-In program for hunting
 - Have GF&P negotiate details with individual landowners
 - Increased license fee to fund program
- Non-Farmer Responses
 - Water needs to be accessible
 - Acknowledge public recreation is priority